

What is claimed is:

1. An internet facsimile apparatus comprising:  
mail transmitter transmits image information  
on a computer network in accordance with an e-mail  
5 transfer protocol; and

facsimile transmitter transmits said image  
information in accordance with a facsimile  
communication protocol, wherein when said mail  
transmitter transmits said image information to a  
10 receiver and then said receiver normally receives  
no corresponding image information within a  
predetermined time period, said facsimile  
transmitter retransmits said image information to  
the same person as said receiver.

15 2. An Internet facsimile apparatus comprising:  
mail transmitter transmits image information  
on a computer network in accordance with an e-mail  
transfer protocol;

mail receiver receives an e-mail message on  
20 said computer network in accordance with the e-mail  
transfer protocol; and

facsimile transmitter transmits said image  
information in accordance with a facsimile  
communication protocol, wherein when said mail  
25 transmitter transmits said image information to a  
receiver and then said receiver receives an error  
mail, said facsimile transmitter retransmits said

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image information to the same person as said receiver.

3. The Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a message ID is extracted from the error mail and image information corresponding to said message ID is transmitted by the facsimile transmitter.

4. An Internet facsimile apparatus comprising:  
mail transmitter transmits image information on a computer network in accordance with an e-mail transfer protocol;

mail receiver receives an e-mail message on said computer network in accordance with the e-mail transfer protocol; and

facsimile transmitter transmits said image information in accordance with a facsimile communication protocol, wherein when said mail transmitter transmits said image information to a receiver and then said receiver receives no a DSN from said receiver within a predetermined time period, said facsimile transmitter retransmits said image information to the same person as said receiver.

5. The Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 4, wherein when said mail receiver receives a delivery confirmation mail indicative of a normal reception, transmission data stored in a memory is

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erased.

6. The Internet facsimile apparatus according to claim 4 or 5, wherein when said mail receiver receives a delivery confirmation mail indicative of an abnormal reception, said facsimile transmitter retransmits said image information to the same person as said receiver.

7. The Internet facsimile apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 6, further comprising a memory for storing image information transmitted by said mail transmitter, wherein said image information is erased from said memory after a lapse of a predetermined time period after said mail transmitter transmits said image information to the receiver.

8. An Internet facsimile apparatus comprising:  
mail transmitter transmits image information on a computer network in accordance with an e-mail transfer protocol;

a memory for storing said image information transmitted by said mail transmitter; and

facsimile transmitter transmits said image information in accordance with a facsimile communication protocol, wherein said image information is erased from said memory after a lapse of a predetermined time period after said mail transmitter transmits said image information to the

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receiver.

9. The Internet facsimile apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 8, further comprising a memory for storing a receiver information table, which holds a mail address of the receiver and identification information, indicative of the presence or absence of a delivery confirmation mail transmission function in a receiver terminal apparatus, to be associated with each other, wherein when said mail receiver receives a delivery confirmation mail from the receiver, said identification information corresponding to the corresponding receiver is set to indicate the presence of the delivery confirmation mail transmission function.

10. An Internet facsimile communication method comprising:

transmitting image information on a computer network in accordance with an e-mail transfer protocol; and

retransmitting said image information to the same person as a receiver in accordance with a facsimile communication protocol when said image information is transmitted to said receiver and then said receiver normally receives no corresponding image information within a predetermined time period.

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11. An Internet facsimile communication method comprising:

transmitting image information on a computer network in accordance with an e-mail transfer  
5 protocol; and

retransmitting said image information to the same person as a receiver in accordance with a facsimile communication protocol when said image information is transmitted to said receiver and then  
10 said receiver receives an error mail.

12. The Internet facsimile communication method according to claim 11, wherein, in the step of retransmitting the image information, a message ID is extracted from the error mail and image  
15 information corresponding to said message ID is transmitted.

13. An Internet facsimile communication method comprising:

transmitting image information on a computer  
20 network in accordance with an e-mail transfer protocol; and

retransmitting said image information to the same person as a receiver in accordance with an e-mail transfer protocol when said image informa-  
25 tion is transmitted to said receiver and then no delivery confirmation mail is received from said receiver within a predetermined time period.

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14. The Internet facsimile communication method according to claim 13, when a delivery confirmation mail, indicative of a normal reception, is received, transmission data stored in a memory  
5 is erased.

15. The Internet facsimile communication method according to claim 13 or 14, wherein when a delivery confirmation mail, indicative of an abnormal reception, is received, said image  
10 information is retransmitted to the same person as said receiver in accordance with the facsimile communication protocol.

16. The Internet facsimile communication method according to any one of claims 10 to 5, wherein  
15 said image information is erased from the memory after a lapse of a predetermined time period after said image information is transmitted to the receiver in accordance with the e-mail transfer protocol.

20 17. An Internet facsimile communication method comprising:

transmitting image information on a computer network in accordance with an e-mail transfer protocol;

25 storing said transmitted image information to a memory; and

erasing said image information from said memory

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after a lapse of a predetermined time period after said image information is transmitted to a receiver in accordance with a facsimile communication protocol.

- 5           18. The Internet facsimile communication method according to any one of claims 10 to 18, further comprising:

          storing a receiver information table, which holds a mail address of the receiver and  
10   identification information, indicative of the presence or absence of a delivery confirmation mail transmission function in a receiver terminal apparatus, to be associated with each other; and

          setting said identification information cor-  
15   responding to the corresponding receiver to indicate the presence of said delivery confirmation mail transmission function when a delivery confirmation mail is received from the receiver.

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